

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-13 ISO-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01 CIAE-00
DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 SS-15 STR-04 ITC-01
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R 211646Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1579
INFO USDOC WASHDC
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

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GENEVA FOR UNCTAD FOR NEGOTIATING TEAM

SAN JOSE FOR AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, PN, OCON, ETRD
SUBJECT: OPENING OF NEW SUGAR MILL IN PANAMA

REF: PANAMA A-038 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: PANAMA BEGINS OPERATIONS AT NEWLY COMPLETED, GOVERN-
MENT-OWNED LA VICTORIS SUGAR CORPORATION'S MILL AT ALANJE,
CHIRIQUI PROVINCE, THE GOP COUNTS HEAVILY ON SUGAR TO GENERATE
LARGER AND LARGER EXPORT EARNINGS IN THE FUTURE. IT WILL
PROBABLY STRIVE VIGOROUSLY TO PROTECT AND EXPAND ITS FOREIGN
MARKETS, ESPECIALLY THE U.S. MARKET AND WILL APPEAL
TO THE UNITED STATES FOR SUPPORT.

1. ON 19 APRIL 1977 THE GRINDING OF CANE BEGAN AT GOP LA
VICTORIA SUGAR CORPORATION'S JUST-COMPLETED MILL NEAR DAVID
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AT ALANJE, CHIRIQUI PROVINCE.

2. THE ALANJE MILL, A \$60 MILLION PROJECT (\$40 MILLION FOR
THE MILL, \$20 MILLION FOR PROPERTY AND OTHER INVESTMENTS)
CONSTRUCTED BY AN AMERICAN CONSORTIUM, TELLEPSSEN-WALLACE
CO., HAS AN ESTIMATED DAILY GRINDING CAPACITY OF 6600
SHORT TONS. ESTIMATED ANNUAL PRODUCTION IS 60,000 SHORT

TONS. IT WILL BE OFFICIALLY INAUGURATED LATER THIS MONTH DURING CEREMONIES TO BE ATTENDED BY VARIOUS GOP AND FOREIGN DIGNITARIES. IN THE MEANTIME THE MILL IS IN A TESTING PERIOD TO EXAMINE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE MACHINERY AND THE MANAGEMENT OF THE HARVEST. THE FIELD OPERATIONS WILL BENEFIT FROM THE TRANSFER OF HARVESTING EQUIPMENT FROM LA VICTORIA'S OTHER MILL "FELIPILLO" LOCATED AT PACORA ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF PANAMA'S CAPITAL CITY.

3. THE JAPANESE-BUILT PACORA MILL WAS FINISHED IN JANUARY 1977. IT GROUND SUGAR FOR 35 DAYS AS A TEST PERIOD, AND THEN SHUT DOWN. IT IS NOT SCHEDULED TO RUN AGAIN UNTIL THE CANE CUTTING SEASON STARTS AROUND CHRISTMAS. MEANWHILE SCREWS ARE BEING TIGHTENED AND MACHINERY CHECKED AND OILED.

4. COMMENT: THE UNITED STATES HAS SUPPORTED AND ENCOURAGED EXPANSION OF PANAMA'S SUGAR INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION OF THIS MILL (SEE REFAIR, COPY BEING AIRPOUCHED TO USMISSION GENEVA). GOP VERY CONSCIOUS OF THEIR EXPANDED PRODUCTION POTENTIAL AND INCREASED EXPORT CAPABILITY AND ACCORDINGLY ARE CONCERNED ABOUT THE AVAILABILITY OF WORLD MARKETS, ESPECIALLY THE U.S. MARKET. AS A RESULT, PANAMA AT UNCTAD CONFERENCE MAY APPEAL TO U.S. SENSE OF JUSTICE OR ETHICS IN ENDEAVORING TO MAINTAIN AND EXPAND THEIR U.S. MARKETS.
JORDEN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SUGAR, PRODUCTION, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770434/aaaabcko.tel
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Litigation History:
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Subject: OPENING OF NEW SUGAR MILL IN PANAMA
TAGS: EAGR, OCON, ETRD, PN
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